

INLG 2018

**Workshop on
NLG for Human–Robot Interaction**

Proceedings of the Workshop

November 8, 2018
Tilburg, The Netherlands

Workshop on NLG for Human–Robot Interaction
November 8, 2018, Tilburg, The Netherlands
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Introduction

The workshop on NLG for Human–Robot Interaction (NLG-HRI) was held in Tilburg, The Netherlands as part of the 11th International Conference on Natural Language Generation (INLG 2018).

The aim of the workshop was to bring the two research communities Natural Language Generation (NLG) and Human–Robot Interaction (HRI) together in order to enable an interdisciplinary dialogue between researchers of these fields.

The workshop invited short position papers from researchers working on human–robot interaction and/or natural language generation. The workshop received eight submissions, all of which were reviewed by two or three members of the program committee. Five of papers were chosen for long oral presentations (15 minutes), and three for short oral presentations (7 minutes). This proceedings volume contains the six papers whose authors agreed to have their position papers published.

The workshop began with a short tutorial-style introductions to the fields involved. This was followed by presentations of the position papers. In the afternoon, two break-out groups were formed for in-depth discussion of (i) interactive multimodal generation, and (ii) shared tasks, challenges, and tools. Finally, future actions on the topics of the workshop as well as ways to continue the conversation were discussed.

Thirty-two participants registered for the workshop, most of them working on natural language generation, some on natural language generation for human–robot interaction (or interactive systems more generally) and a few on human–robot interaction. Attendees engaged in lively discussions around the presented papers and the topics of the break-out groups, making the workshop a success.

We would, once again, like to thank the authors, the program committee members, and the workshop attendees.

Mary Ellen Foster
Hendrik Buschmeier
Dimitra Gkatzia

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Conference Program

Thursday, November 8, 2018

9:00–10:30 Introduction

9:00–9:10 Welcome

9:10–10:10 *Introduction to NLG for HRI by Mary Ellen Foster*

10:10–10:30 *Discussion*

10:30–11:00 Coffee break

11:00–12:30 Presentation Session 1

11:00–11:20 *Context-sensitive Natural Language Generation for robot-assisted second language tutoring*

Bram Willemsen, Jan de Wit, Emiel Kraemer, Mirjam de Haas and Paul Vogt

11:20–11:30 *Learning from limited datasets: Implications for Natural Language Generation and Human-Robot Interaction*

Jekaterina Belakova and Dimitra Gkatzia

11:30–11:40 *A NLG based error reporting system for production line machines*

Frank Feulner, Robert Weißgraber, Alexander Deutsch and Stefan Lasse

11:40–11:50 *Building a large-scale Persona dialog dataset*

Yinhe Zheng, Guanyi Chen and Minlie Huang

11:50–12:10 *Shaping a social robot's humor with Natural Language Generation and socially-aware reinforcement learning*

Hannes Ritschel and Elisabeth André

12:10–12:30 *From sensors to sense: Integrated heterogeneous ontologies for Natural Language Generation*

Mihai Pomarlan, Robert Porzel, John Bateman and Rainer Malaka

12:30–13:30 Lunch

Thursday, November 8, 2018 (continued)

13:30–14:10 Presentation Session 2

13:30–13:50 *A farewell to arms: Non-verbal communication for non-humanoid robots*
Aaron G. Cass, Kristina Striegnitz and Nick Webb

13:50–14:10 *Being data-driven is not enough: Revisiting interactive instruction giving as a challenge for NLG*
Sina Zarrieß and David Schlangen

14:10–16:30 Break-out groups

14:10–14:20 *Organisation*

14:20–15:00 *Break-out groups*

15:00–15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30–16:10 *Break-out groups (cont')*

16:10–16:30 *Results*

16:30–17:00 Wrap-up

16:30–16:55 *Discussion of future actions*

16:55–17:00 *Farewell*